

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 14720 110921Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-09 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 /129 W
-----041354 121011Z /12

R 110801Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4836
USDOE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, MT
SUBJECT: MALTESE PROPOSAL FOR A MEDITERRANEAN REGIONAL CENTER
FOR SOLAR AND OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

REF: GENOA A-6, 6-23-78 (NOTAL)

1. SCIATT HAS BEEN ASKED BY INTERESTED ITALIANS ABOUT USG
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ATTITUDES TOWARD THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH HAS BEEN PUT
FORTH IN THE UNEP MEDITERRANEAN CONTEXT AND DISCUSSED IN THE
GENOA SOLAR FAIR IN JUNE. WE GATHER THE PROPOSAL IS TO BE
DISCUSSED AGAIN IN VALETTA IN OCTOBER.

2. THE GOI HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE PROPOSAL, PROBABLY BECAUSE
IT OFFERS A COUNTER-BALANCE TO FRENCH HEGEMONY OVER SOLAR TECH-

NOLOGY IN THE REGION, BECAUSE THE ITALIANS GENERALLY LIKE TO KEEP ON GOOD TERMS WITH THE MALTESE, AND BECAUSE ITALY WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A SOLAR SUPPLIER TO THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION. ATTITUDES OF THE OTHER EC COUNTRIES ARE UNCLEAR TO US, BUT WE DOUBT THEY ARE ALL POSITIVE.

3. WHILE THE USG PRESUMABLY NEED NOT BE INVOLVED DIRECTLY IN THIS PROPOSAL, WE WONDER WHETHER WE SHOULD NOT BE KEEPING A SHARP EYE ON HOW IT DEVELOPS. FIRST, BECAUSE MEDITERRANEAN COOPERATION OF ANY SORT CAN AFFECT INDIRECTLY VITAL U.S. INTERESTS. SECOND, BECAUSE THE QUESTION OF SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS LIKELY TO BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IN BOTH U.S. AND EC RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, BOTH FOR ITS OWN SAKE AND AS A SYMBOL OF WILLINGNESS TO MAKE NON-NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE. THIRD, BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE CONFLICTS OR CONVERGENCES BETWEEN THE MALTESE PROPOSAL AND OTHER PROJECTS (INCLUDING THE NATO/CCMS MEDITERRANEAN HOUSE GROUP AND VARIOUS IEA PROJECTS).

4. IN ANY CASE, THE MISSION WOULD LIKE TO BE INFORMED OF ANY USG POLICY ON THE MALTESE PROPOSAL AS WELL AS ANY REPORTS OTHER MAY FILE ON THE SUBJECT. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, SOLAR POWER
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, MT
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